Duties, are devolved to States. This will result in an increase from Rs. 206343 Crores of taxes devolved during 10th Finance Commission period to an estimated Rs. 376318.01 Crores over the period 2000—2005, representing an increase of 82.37%.

Police official involvement in beating innocent person

3080. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Express Newsline dated 21st of November, 2001 under the heading, "He could not give a gift, cops thrash him to Hospital";

(b) if so, what are details thereof including the names of the police officials involved in the beating of innocent person who is in the hospital; and

(c) what action Government have taken against those policemen and whether enquiry has been conducted about the connivance of the S.H.O. of the area and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRICHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A complaint was received by Delhi Police on 19th November, 2001 that a shopkeeper who runs a ready-made garments shop at Tank Road, Delhi was admitted to Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital after he was assaulted by some police personnel. In his statement recorded during the course of inquiry, the shopkeeper stated that he was beaten up by three police officials, namely, Shri Ram Avtar, Head Constable, Shri Jitender, Constable and Shri Pratap Singh, Constable because he refused to give Diwali gift to them.

(c) All the three accused police officials have been placed under suspension and a Departmental Inquiry has been initiated against them. The Vigilance Branch of Delhi Police is also conducting an inquiry to ascertain if the S.H.O: concerned was also involved in this incident.

I ndo-German joint statement

3081. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of Indo-German joint statement issued during visit of German Interior Minister recently; and

(b) the action taken to publicise widely their views on extension of global war against terrorism to Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The joint statement said that international terrorism, which is characterized by high degree of brutality, cold-bloodedness and fanaticism, is not directed at the US alone but at the shared values and convictions of all freedom loving people all over the world. It called for increased global action in the fight against terrorism and recognized the need for a binding International Convention to regulate the principles of fighting terrorism and forms of cooperation. The statement also reiterated German support for India's efforts for a draft UN Convention on combating terrorism and the common goal to conclude a comprehensive convention against international terrorism through constructive, targeted discussions.

(b) Apart from publicity through normal print and electronic media, Government has recently set up an Inter-Ministerial Group on Counter Terrorism headed by Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs to promote international awareness about the efforts made by the Government to Counter Terrorism to legitimate governments and civil societies the world over.

Lottery Mafia in Assam

3082. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether lottery mafia have started spreading its network in Assam again;

(b) the measures proposed to be checked the adverse effect of lottery; and

(c) the directions proposed to be issued to the State Government to ensure that sale proceeds of lottery funds do not go in the hands/coffers of the militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.